

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 046998  
ORIGIN NODS-00

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DRAFTED BY:S/SS-O:SSTEINER

APPROVED BY:S/S-O:SSTEINER

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO WHITE HOUSE

S E C R E T STATE 046998

NODIS

FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM VIENTIANE DATED MARCH 3, 1977  
SENT SECSTATE WASHDC IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

S E C R E T VIENTIANE 0428

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2, 3

TAGS: PFOR LA US VN

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION

REF A VIENTIANE 0372, B VIENTIANE 0385, C VIENTIANE 0400

1. FEBRUARY 23 I MADE ORAL PRESENTATION TO SECSTATE  
FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS NOUPHAN SITHODSAY ON PROPOSED  
PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION VISIT TO HANOI AND OUR INTEN-  
TION TO BE IN FURTHER TOUCH WITH LPDR ON THIS SUBJECT  
(REF A). FEBRUARY 24 I DELIVERED TO NOUPHAN TEXT OF  
SECRETARY'S LETTER TO FOREIGN MINISTER PHOUNE SIPRA-  
SEUTH AND BRIEFED NOUPHAN ON PROBABLE COMPOSITION OF  
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DELEGATION, FACT THAT SRV HAD AGREED TO SIMILAR VISIT  
AND COMMISSION'S DESIRE TO VISIT VIENTIANE AS WELL IN  
COURSE OF ITS TRAVELS. NOUPHAN PROMISED REPLY (REF B).  
FEBRUARY 25 I INFORMED NOUPHAN OF OUR PLAN TO ANNOUNCE  
COMMISSION TRAVEL TO HANOI AND OUR PROPOSAL THAT VISIT  
TO LPDR TAKE PLACE ABOUT MARCH 20-21 AS WELL AS OUR  
PROPOSAL TO VIETNAMESE THAT HANOI VISIT TAKE PLACE

MARCH 16-19. NOUPHAN AGAIN SAID FOREIGN MINISTER WOULD  
REPLY TO SECRETARY'S LETTER.

2. AT SWEDISH AMBASSADOR'S RECEPTION FOR SIDA DELEGA-  
TION MARCH 2,, VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR DINH NHO LIEM  
ASKED ME IF LPDR HAD YET AGREED TO COMMISSION'S VISIT  
TO VIENTIANE. I TOLD HIM I HAD NOT YET RECEIVED A  
REPLY. HE THEN ASKED ME BY WHAT ROUTE COMMISSION  
WOULD REACH HANOI. I TOLD HIM I WAS NOT AWARE OF SUCH  
DETAILS OF ARRANGEMENTS AND I ASSUMED THEY WERE BEING  
HANDLED BY OUR RESPECTIVE EMBASSIES IN PARIS.

3. A LITTLE LATER AT SAME RECEPTION FOREIGN MINISTRY  
CHEF DE CABINET SOUBANH SRITHIRATH ASKED ME IF VIET-  
NAMESE HAD AGREED TO THE SPECIFIC DATES FOR COMMISSION'S  
VISIT TO HANOI. I TOLD HIM I DID NOT KNOW AND MENTIONED  
THAT THE VIETNAMESE AMBASSAODR HAD ALSO ASKED ME FOR  
SOME DETAILS OF ARRANGEMENTS WHICH I WAS NOT ABLE TO  
GIVE HIM. AS I HAD HOPED HE WOULD, SOUBANH THEN SAID  
HE WOULD CONSULT WITH THE VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR ABOUT  
WHAT DATES THE VIETNAMESE HAD AGREED TO.

4. I SUSPECT THAT EITHER LAO SENSITIVITIES VIS-A-VIS  
THE VIETNAMESE INHIBITED EARLIER CONSULTATION IN  
REGARD TO TIMING OF VISIT OR VIETNAMESE HAVE NOT YET  
FIXED THE DATES FOR HANOI VISIT. IN ANY EVENT, CON-  
SULTATION BETWEEN SOUBANH AND AMBASSADOR DINH NHO LIEM  
MAY HELP TO EXPEDITE LAO FOREIGN MINISTRY REPLY TO  
SECRETARY LETTER.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, CAT-A, PRESIDENTIAL MISSIONS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 03-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE046998  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** O:SSTEINER  
**Enclosure:** DC IS ALSO X2  
**Executive Order:** X3  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** NODIS, ONLY  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 VIENTIANE 372, 77 VIENTIANE 385, 77 VIENTIANE 400  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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